10. *Nasturtium Officinale.*—Surgeon-Major John Wyatt thinks that (*Brit. Med. Journ.*, April 11, 1868) this efficient vegetable alterative in the treatment of cachectic diseases, has not received the consideration it deserves. He says a very efficient preparation has been made by Messrs. Savory and Barker, at his suggestion, and is named "liquor nasturtii." It contains all the active principles of the plant in a very palatable form. Of course, everybody is aware of the valuable antiscorbutic properties of the 'cruciferæ' generally, and of the peculiarly palatable relish of the fresh plant on the table; but independently of this well-established character, he does not think that its value is sufficiently appreciated as a vegetable alterative for that numerous class of cases of cachectic blood-diseases which is so often to be observed amongst the poorer classes in densely crowded towns, and which morbid deterioration is probably due, in a great degree, to the deficiency of succulent vegetable element in their vicarious diet. He has during several years past been in the habit of employing the liquor nasturtii as a prophylactic in such conditions, with the best possible results. No official preparation of the plant exists in the *British Pharmacopœia;* but in that of 1788, a preparation called the 'succus antiscorbuticus' was to be found; and, in the Parisian *Codex*, there are two valuable preparations—the 'succus' and the 'syrupus antiscorbuticus,' the chief ingredients of which are the water-cress, scurvy-grass, and buckbean. The memorable campaign in the Crimea practically taught the incalculable value of even such snatches of vegetation as could be procured from the banks of the rivers; and, Surgeon W. says, "Well do I remember the appetizing sight of the little dishes of indigenous salad to be seen so often in the French camps, composed of a small species of water-cress, dandelion, and sorrel; while our men were feeding strictly on the regulation food, and suffering in consequence."

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11. *Carbolate of Quinia.*—Prof. Wenzel remarks (*Jahrbücher der Gesammten Med.*, Aug. 28, 1867), that carbolic acid, which in solution acts as a poison upon the lower animal organisms, is borne in proportionate, though large doses, by the higher animals and man, when introduced into the body in a diluted state. It was administered to some animals with advantage in their food in England at the time of the rinderpest. With bases, even weak ones such as quinia, carbolic acid loses in a great degree its irritating properties at the point where it is applied; when combined in the proportion of two equivalents of the acid to one of quinia, the compound is characterized by a slight sharpness, and a decidedly bitter taste. Professor Bernatzik proposes a preparation composed in this manner, and he hopes that it will prove an energetic disinfectant for internal use. G. Braun has given it with benefit in puerperal diseases, and Duchek in several typhous cases, and in one of pyæmia. Pills containing 1 grain of quinia with .6 of a grain of carbolic acid were given repeatedly without causing the slightest inconvenience, and according to these statements 3 to 6 grains of carbolic acid were given daily without injury. The compound was prepared by dissolving 60 parts of carbolic acid with 100 of quinia, in 300 of highly rectified spirit, filtering the solution, distilling and evaporating to the consistence of turpentine, and then mixing some extract of acorus and powdered cassia.

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12. *Epispastics as Exciting and Depressing Agents, and their Influence on the Pulse and Animal Heat.*—Dr. O. Naumann in former investigations had arrived at the conclusions, 1. That the therapeutical action of cutaneous irritants is brought about only in a reflex manner; 2. That a proportionately powerful irritation of the skin diminishes the power of the heart and arteries, and acts hyposthenically; 3. That a proportionately feeble irritation of the skin increases the power of the heart and arteries, and acts hypersthenically; 4. That the place where the irritant is applied is, for the most part, a matter of indifference in regard to the result required; and 5. That in general an amount of irritation corresponding to the circumstances alone regulates the therapeutical effects. In the present communication Dr. Naumann relates the results he has obtained by the aid of the hæmadynamometer prepared by himself. He finds that an intense irritation of the skin very rapidly produces a diminution of the frequency and especially of the strength of the pulse. This diminution of the

pulse is usually preceded by a stage of excitement, which, however, is soon passed. The diminution of the pulse in several cases attains its maximum, during the irritation, but often only after it has ended, but it continues a long time after the irritation has ceased. The frequency of the pulse is, for the most part, somewhat increased at the commencement of a powerful irritation of the skin, but during the irritation and sometimes after it, it is retarded, and this retardation often continues for a long time after the irritation has ceased; but this occurs much less frequently than a diminution in the strength of the pulse. In reference to the changes of temperature, it was observed as a constant result that a powerful irritation of the skin produced a remarkable diminution of the animal heat. But generally this cooling is preceded by a greater or less elevation of the temperature, the duration of which seems to depend on individual peculiarities, and may be extended beyond the time of the irritation before cooling begins. The above mentioned changes produced by cutaneous irritation take place in the normal conditions of the body, but still greater alterations are to be expected in cases of disease. In the so-called synochal diseases, the irritability of the body, and the reaction from irritants is usually increased, and is exhibited, for instance, on the application of a mustard poultice, in a well-marked cutaneous inflammation visible to the eye. The reverse is the case in the so-called asthenic conditions, in which the operation of epispastics is much weaker, or is not exhibited at all, and thus it may be explained how the same cutaneous irritant may act in very different ways, and may operate as a depressing agent in so-called synochal diseases, and as a stimulating one in asthenic cases, as in threatening collapse. The results of the present investigations made by Dr. Naumann are summed up by him in the following manner: 1. The changes produced by an irritation of the skin continued for a long time, last also for a long time after its discontinuance, and in general the length of the time corresponds to the long continuance of the irritation, and in healthy persons the changes may be observed half to three-quarters of an hour after the irritation. 2. The weakening of the pulse caused by a powerful cutaneous irritation often attains its maximum during the irritation, but often only at the end of it. 3. The exciting action of the proportionately feeble cutaneous irritants also continues for a long time after their discontinuance, but is at last equally followed by weakness which, however, appears much later, and in a much less degree than after the application of a strong irritant. 4. After powerful irritation of the skin, there constantly arises, for the most part after a longer or shorter interval of heating, a diminution of the animal temperature, which has often not reached its termination half an hour after the discontinuance of the irritation. 5. The interval of heating differs very much in its duration, and the cooling often occurs during the irritation, and often immediately after its cessation.—*Brit. and For. Med.-Chir. Rev.*, April, 1868, from *Schmidt's Jahrbücher*, March, 1867.

13. *Ozone.*—Dr. H. DAY, in a report on this article made to the St. Andrews Medical Graduates' Association, gives the conclusions at which he has arrived, the most important of which we subjoin:—

There can be no escaping, at this moment, from the theory that ozone is a modified condition of oxygen, indeed, is oxygen plus force, which force is probably used in condensation—in other words, the power or capability of oxygen to combine with itself.

For the production of ozone in the laboratory, no method is so good as that accomplished by the aid of the induction coil. The production of ozone in the air, if it be there, is not yet in any way definitely understood.

The ordinary tests for ozone are imperfect, not because they will not prove the presence of ozone, but because they prove too much—that is to say, the presence of other bodies also common to the atmosphere.

In its action on the body the effects of ozone seem to be confined to the respiratory passages and structures, in fact, it is purely local in its action, resembling closely diluted chlorine and diluted bromine in vapour, the phenomena induced, varying in intensity, may be catarrhal, bronchial, or pneumonic, nor is there any evidence of any other class of diseases from ozone.